Primary Source Activity 1

Core Theme: Growing the Nation: Westward Expansion

Source Analysis Focus: Spiral Questions

Due: December 10

For this assignment, take a primary source related broadly to the theme of westward expansion, and develop a set of spiral questions to guide students in analyzing the source.

Topic: The specific subject of our November Seminar on the Core Theme is the Lewis & Clark Expedition. Your Primary Source Activity does not have to be about Lewis & Clark specifically, though it can be. It must relate to the larger theme of Westward Expansion, and it should be something you will be able to use with your students.

Other Examples: Settlement of Ohio
German Immigrants to Ohio
Native American Encounters with Europeans in North America

Depending on the subject you teach, the theme can be interpreted broadly. If you have questions ask Stuart.

Primary Source: The resources you receive from Connecting to the Past are the best place to start.

- November Seminar resource CD that contains resources specifically related to the Core Theme of Westward Expansion.
- Quality web resources linked on the resource CDs and the Connecting to the Past website.
- Books containing primary sources distributed at the Orientation and Seminar.

Primary Source Activity: Use the Spiral Questions handout to develop a series of spiral questions related to your source. You should have 2-3 questions for each of the Spiral Levels: Description, Interpretation, Analysis.

Format: Use the “Creating Primary Source Activities: Format Instructions” handout as your model for the format.